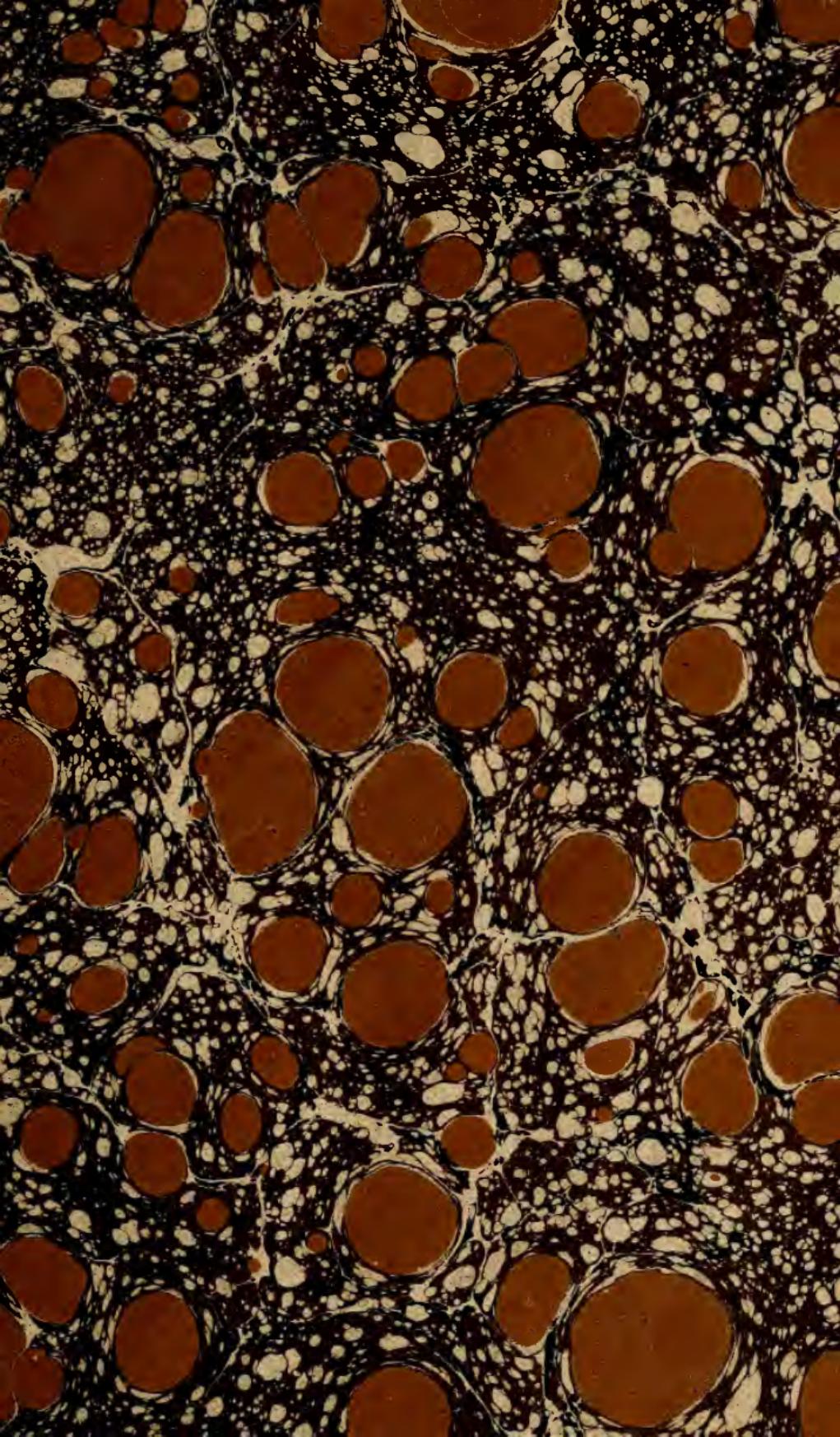
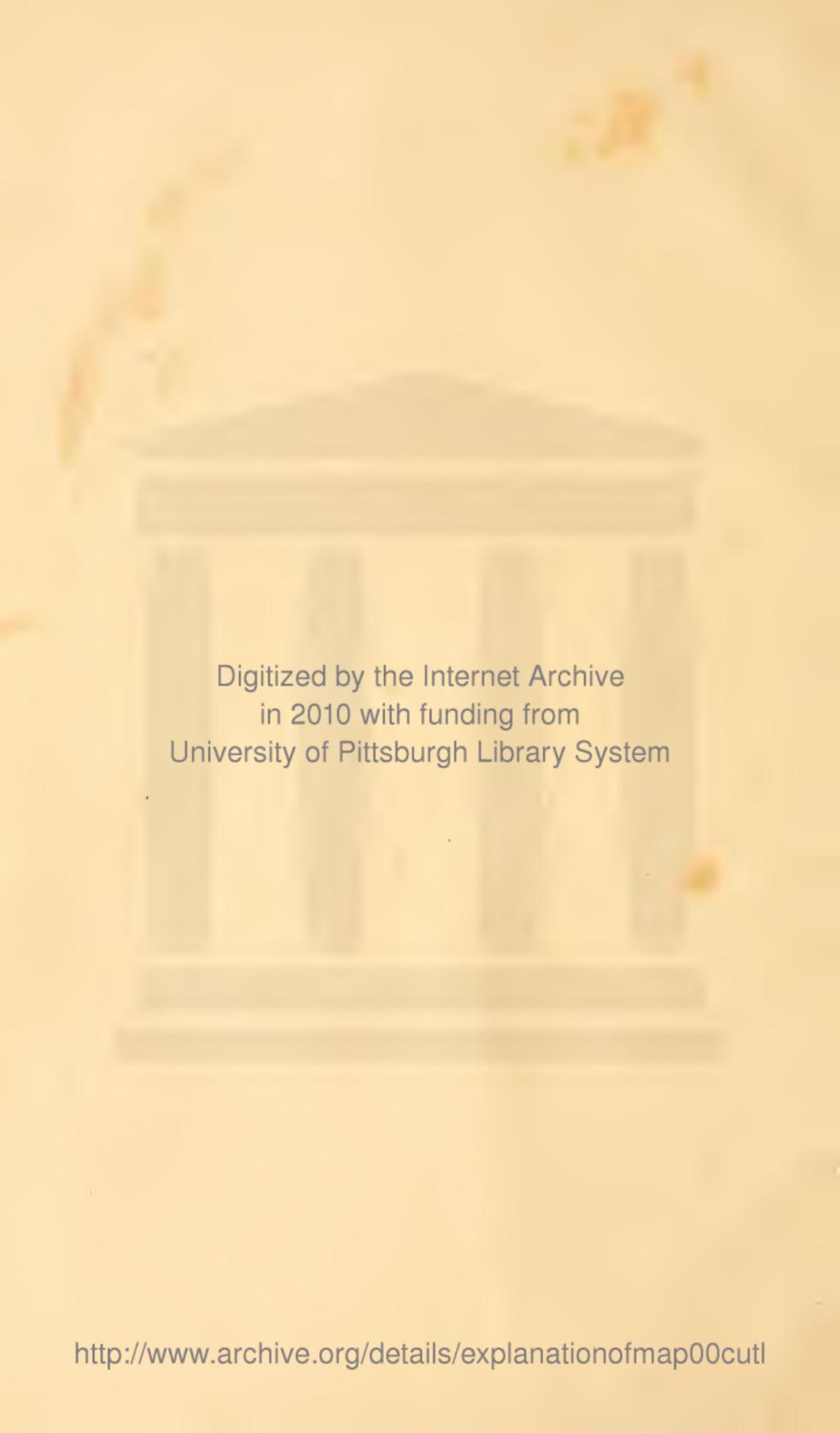


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A N

E X P L A N A T I O N
O F T H E
M A P

WHICH DELINEATES THAT PART OF THE

Federal Lands,

Comprehended between Pennsylvania West Line, the Rivers Ohio and Sioto, and Lake Erie; confirmed to the UNITED STATES by sundry Tribes of Indians, in the Treaties of 1784 and 1786, and now ready for Settlement.

S A L E M :

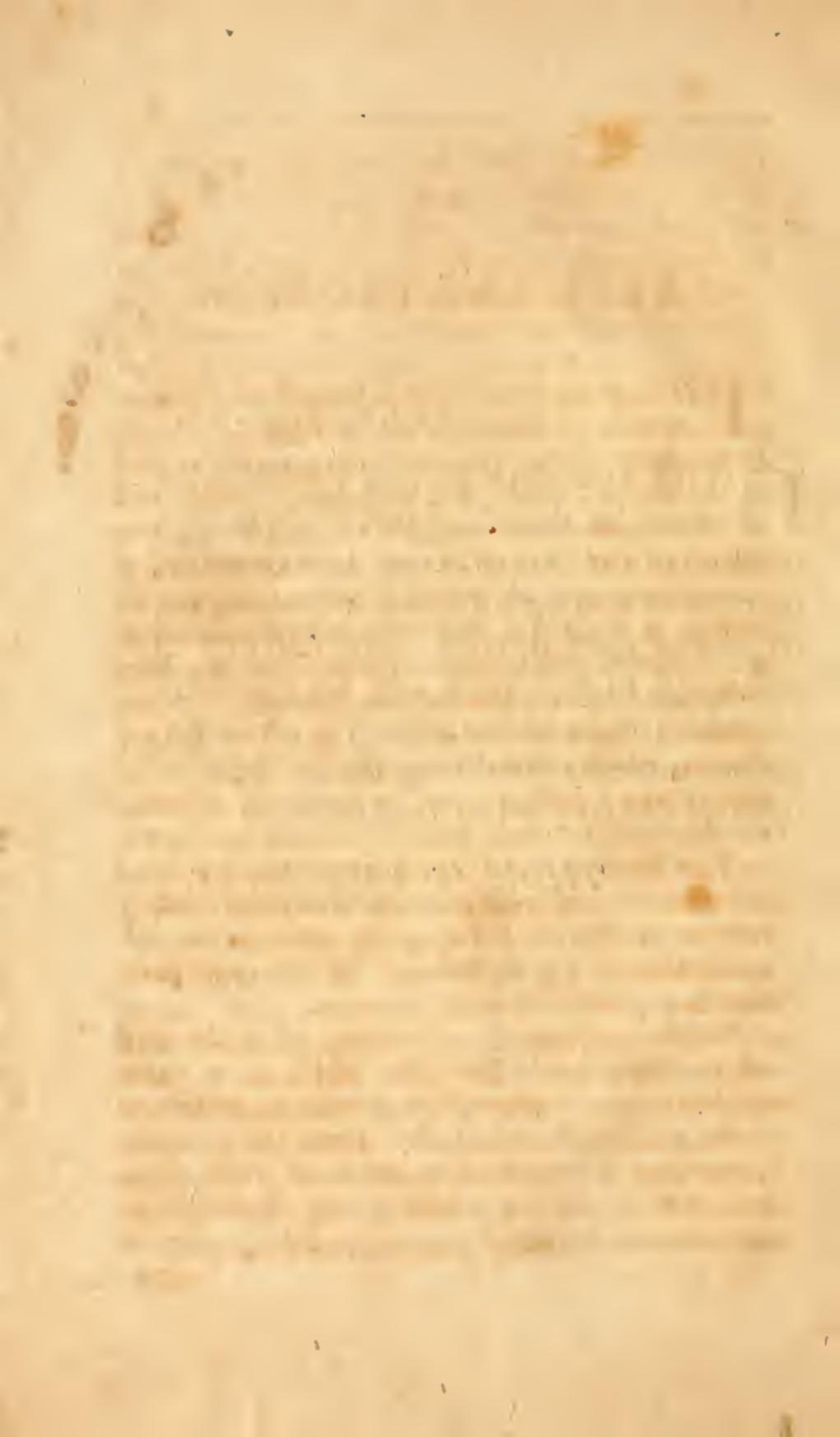
P R I N T E D B Y D A B N E Y A N D C U S H I N G .
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NEW-YORK, 28th October, 1787.

HAVING attentively perused the following pamphlet, describing part of the western territory of the United States, I DO CERTIFY, that the facts therein related, respecting the fertility of the soil, productions, and general advantages of settlement, &c. are judicious, just and true, and correspond with observations made by me during my residence of upwards of ten years in that country.

THOMAS HUTCHINS,
Geographer of the United States.



A N

EXPLANATION, &c.

THE great river Ohio is formed by the confluence of Monongahela and the Alleghany, in the State of Pennsylvania, about 290 miles west of the city of Philadelphia, and about 20 miles east of the western line of that State. In the common travelling road, the former distance is computed at 320 miles ; and, by the windings and oblique direction of the Ohio, the latter is reckoned about 42. These two sources of the Ohio are large navigable streams ; the former, flowing from the southeast, leaves but 30 miles portage from the navigable waters of the Potowmac, in Virginia ; the latter opens a passage from the northeast, and rises not far from the head waters of the Susquehanna.

THE State of Pennsylvania have already adopted the plan of opening a navigation from the Alleghany river to the city of Philadelphia, through the Susquehanna and the Delaware. In this route there will be a portage of only 24 miles.

ON the junction of these rivers, or at the head of the Ohio, stands Fort Pitt, which gives name to the town of Pittsburgh, a flourishing settlement in the vicinity of the fortress. From this place the Ohio takes a southwestern course of 1188 miles, including its various windings, and discharges itself into the Mississippi ; having passed a prodigious length

length of delightful and fertile country, and received the tribute of a large number of navigable streams. The Muskingum, the Hockhocking, the Sioto, the Miami, and the Wabash, from the northwest ; the Kenhawa, the Kentucky, the Buffaloe, the Shawanee, and the Cherokee, from the southeast, all navigable from 100 to 900 miles, discharge themselves into the Ohio ; and yet the Ohio itself forms but an inconsiderable part of that vast variety of congregated streams which visit the ocean through the channel of the Mississippi.

THE Ohio, from Pennsylvania to the Mississippi, divides the State of Virginia from the federal lands, or the lands which do not fall within the limits of any particular State. These extend westward to the Mississippi, and northward to the boundary of the United States, excepting only the Connecticut reserve, which is a narrow strip of land, bordering on the south of Lake Erie, and stretching 120 miles west of the western limit of Pennsylvania. But a small proportion of these lands is as yet purchased of the natives, and to be disposed of by Congress. Beginning on the meridian line, which forms the western boundary of Pennsylvania, they have surveyed and laid off seven ranges of townships. As a north and south line strikes the Ohio in a very oblique direction, the termination of the seventh range falls upon that river 9 miles above the Muskingum, which is the first large river that falls into the Ohio. It forms this junction at 172 miles below Fort Pitt, including the windings of the Ohio, though in a direct line it is but 90 miles.

THE lands in which the Indian title is extinguished,

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ed, and which are now purchasing under the United States, are bounded as before described on the east, by the great Miami on the west, by the Ohio on the south, and extend near to the head waters of the Muskingum and Siotó on the north.

THE Muskingum is a gentle river, confined by banks so high as to prevent its overflowing. It is 250 yards wide at its confluence with the Ohio, and navigable by large batteaux and barges to the *Three Legs*; and, by small ones, to the lake at its head. From thence, by a portage of about one mile, a communication is opened to Lake Erie, through the Cayahoga, which is a stream of great utility, navigable the whole length, without any obstruction from falls. From Lake Erie, the avenue is well known to the Hudson in the State of New-York. The most considerable portage in this route is at the fall of Niagara, which interrupts the communication between the lakes Erie and Ontario. From the latter you pass through the river Oswego, the Oneyda lake, Wood's creek, and find a short portage into the Mohawk, and another occasioned by a fall near the confluence of the Mohawk and the Hudson, at Albany.

THE Hockhocking resembles the Muskingum, though somewhat inferior in size. It is navigable for large boats about 70 miles, and for small ones much farther. On the banks of this very useful stream are found inexhaustible quarries of free-stone, large beds of iron ore, and some rich mines of lead. Coal mines and salt springs are frequent in the neighbourhood of this stream, as they are in every part of the western territory. The salt that may be

be obtained from these springs will afford an inexhaustible store of that necessary article. Beds of white and blue clay, of an excellent quality, are likewise found here, suitable for the manufacture of glass, crockery and other earthen wares. Red bole and many other useful fossils have been observed on the branches of this river.

THE Sioto is a larger river than either of the preceding, and opens a more extensive navigation. It is passable for large barges for 200 miles, with a portage of only 4 miles to the Sandusky, a good navigable stream that falls into the lake Erie. Through the Sandusky and Sioto lies the most common pass from Canada to the Ohio and Mississippi; one of the most extensive and useful communications that are to be found in any country. Prodigious extensions of territory are here connected; and, from the rapidity with which the western parts of Canada, lake Erie and the Kentucky countries are settling, we may anticipate an immense intercourse between them. The lands on the borders of these middle streams, from this circumstance alone, aside from their natural fertility, must be rendered vastly valuable. There is no doubt, but flour, corn, flax, hemp, &c. raised for exportation in that great country between the lakes Huron and Ontario, will find an easier outlet through lake Erie and these rivers, than in any other direction. The Ohio merchant can give a higher price than those of Quebec, for these commodities; as they may be transported from the former to Florida and the West-India islands, with less expence, risk and insurance, than from the latter; while the expence from

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from the place of growth to the Ohio will not be one fourth of what it would be to Quebec, and much less than even to the Oneyda lake. The stream of Sioto is gentle, no where broken by falls: At some places, in the spring of the year, it overflows its banks, providing for large natural rice plantations. Salt springs, coal mines, white and blue clay, and free-stone, abound in the country adjoining this river.

THE undistinguishing terms of admiration, that are commonly used in speaking of the natural fertility of the country on the western waters of the United States, would render it difficult, without accurate attention in the surveys, to ascribe a preference to any particular part; or to give a just description of the territory under consideration, without the hazard of being suspected of exaggeration: But in *this* we have the united opinion of the Geographer, the Surveyors, and every traveller that has been intimately acquainted with the country, and marked every natural object with the most scrupulous exactness—That no part of the federal territory unites so many advantages, in point of health, fertility, variety of production, and foreign intercourse, as that tract which stretches from the Muskingum to the Sioto and the Great Miami rivers.

COL. GORDON, in his journal, speaking of a much larger range of country, in which this is included, and makes unquestionably the finest part, has the following observation:—"The country on the Ohio is every where pleasant, with large level spots of rich land; and remarkably healthy. One general remark of this nature will serve for the

whole tract of the globe comprehended between the western skirts of the Alleghany mountains ; thence running southwesterly to the distance of 500 miles to the Ohio falls ; then crossing them northerly to the heads of the rivers that empty themselves into the Ohio ; thence east along the ridge that separates the lakes and Ohio's streams, to French Creek—This country may, from a proper knowledge, be affirmed to be the most healthy, the most pleasant, the most commodious and most fertile spot of earth, known to the European people."

THE lands that feed the various streams above-mentioned, which fall into the Ohio, are now more accurately known, and may be described with confidence and precision. They are interspersed with all the variety of soil which conduces to pleasantness of situation, and lays the foundation for the wealth of an agricultural and manufacturing people. Large level bottoms, or natural meadows, from 20 to 50 miles in circuit, are every where found bordering the rivers, and variegating the country in the interior parts. These afford as rich a soil as can be imagined, and may be reduced to proper cultivation with very little labour. It is said, that in many of these bottoms a man may clear an acre a day, fit for planting with Indian corn ; there being no under wood ; and the trees, growing very high and large, but not thick together, need nothing but girdling.

THE prevailing growth of timber and the more useful trees are, maple or sugar tree—sycamore—black and white mulberry—black and white walnut—butternut—chesnut—white, black, Spanish and chesnut oaks—hickory—cherry—buckwood—honey

ney locust—elm—horse chesnut—cucumber tree—lynn tree—gum tree—iron wood—ash—aspin—sassafras—crab apple tree—paupaw or custard apple—a variety of plumb trees—nine bark spice, and leather wood bushes. General Parsons measured a black walnut tree near the Muskingum, whose circumference, at 5 feet from the ground, was 22 feet. A sycamore, near the same place, measures 44 feet in circumference, at some distance from the ground. White and black oak, and chesnut, with most of the above-mentioned timbers, grow large and plenty upon the high grounds. Both the high and low lands produce vast quantities of natural grapes of various kinds, of which the settlers universally make a sufficiency for their own consumption of rich red wine. It is asserted in the old settlement of St. Vincent's, where they have had opportunity to try it, that age will render this wine preferable to most of the European wines. Cotton is the natural production of this country, and grows in great perfection.

THE sugar maple is a most valuable tree for an inland country. Any number of inhabitants may be forever supplied with a sufficiency of sugar, by preserving a few trees for the use of each family. A tree will yield about ten pounds of sugar a year, and the labour is very trifling: The sap is extracted in the months of February and March, and granulated, by the simple operation of boiling, to a sugar equal in flavour and whiteness to the best Muscovado.

SPRINGS of excellent water abound in every part of this territory; and small and large streams,

for

for mills and other purposes, are actually interspersed, as if by art, that there be no deficiency in any of the conveniences of life.

VERY little waste land is to be found in any part of the tract of country comprehended in the map which accompanies this. There are no swamps; and though the hills are frequent, they are gentle and swelling, no where high nor incapable of tillage. They are of a deep, rich soil, covered with a heavy growth of timber, and well adapted to the production of wheat, rye, indigo, tobacco, &c.

THE communications between this country and the sea will be principally in the four following directions.

1. THE route through the Sioto and Muskingum to lake Erie, and so to the river Hudson; which has been already described.

2. THE passage up the Ohio and Monongahela, to the portage above-mentioned, which leads to the navigable waters of the Potowmac. This portage is 30 miles, and will probably be rendered much less by the execution of the plans now on foot for opening the navigation of those waters.

3. THE great Kenhawa, which falls into the Ohio from the Virginia shore, between the Hockhocking and the Sioto, opens an extensive navigation from the southeast, and leaves but 18 miles portage from the navigable waters of James river, in Virginia. This communication, for the country between Muskingum and Sioto, will probably be more used than any other, for the exportation of manufactures, and other light and valuable articles; and, especially,

especially, for the importation of foreign commodities, which may be brought from the Chesapeake to the Ohio much cheaper than they are now carried from Philadelphia to Carlisle and the other thick settled back counties of Pennsylvania.

4. BUT the current down the Ohio and the Mississippi, for heavy articles that suit the Florida and West-India markets, such as corn, flour, beef, lumber, &c. will be more frequently loaded than any streams on earth. The distance from the Sioto to the Mississippi is 800 miles ; from thence to the sea is 900. This whole course is easily run in 15 days ; and the passage up those rivers is not so difficult as has usually been represented. It is found, by late experiments, that sails are used to great advantage against the current of the Ohio : And it is worthy of observation, that in all probability steam-boats will be found to do infinite service in all our extensive river navigation.

SUCH is the state of facts relative to the natural advantages of the territory described in the annexed map. As far as observations in passing the rivers, and the transitory remarks of travellers, will justify an opinion, the lands farther down, and in other parts of the unappropriated country, are not equal, in point of soil and other local advantages, to the tract which is here described. This, however, cannot be accurately determined, as the present situation of these countries will not admit of that minute inspection which has been bestowed on the one under consideration.

IT is a happy circumstance, that the *Ohio Company* are about to commence the settlement of this country

country in so regular and judicious a manner. It will serve as a wise model for the future settlement of all the federal lands ; at the same time that, by beginning so near the western limit of Pennsylvania, it will be a continuation of the old settlements, leaving no vacant lands exposed to be seized by such lawless banditti as usually infest the frontiers of countries distant from the seat of government.

THE design of Congress and of the settlers is, that the settlements shall proceed regularly down the Ohio ; and northward to lake Erie. And it is probable that not many years will elapse, before the whole country above Miami will be brought to that degree of cultivation, which will exhibit all its latent beauties, and justify those descriptions of travellers which have so often made it the garden of the world, the seat of wealth, and the centre of a great empire.

To the philosopher and the politician, on viewing this delightful part of the federal territory, under the prospect of an immediate and systematic settlement, the following observations will naturally occur.

First. THE toils of agriculture will here be rewarded with a greater variety of valuable productions, than in any part of America. The advantages of almost every climate are here blended together ; every considerable commodity, that is cultivated in any part of the United States, is here produced in the greatest plenty and perfection. The high and dry lands are of a deep, rich soil—producing, in abundance, *wheat, rye, Indian corn, buck wheat, oats, barley, flax, hemp, tobacco, indigo, silk,*

silk, wine and cotton. The tobacco is of a quality superior to that of Virginia ; and the crops of wheat are larger than in any other part of America. The common growth of Indian corn is from 60 to 80 bushels to the acre.* The low lands are well suited to the production of nearly all the above articles, except wheat. Where the large bottoms are interspersed with small streams, they are well adapted to the growth of rice ; which may be produced in any quantities. The borders of the large streams do not generally admit of this crop, as very few of them overflow their banks. But the scarcity of natural rice swamps is amply compensated by the remarkable healthfulness of the whole country ; it being entirely free from stagnant waters. It is found, in this country, that stagnant waters are by no means necessary to the growth of rice ; the common rich bottoms produce this crop in as great perfection as the best rice swamps of the southern States. Hops are the natural production of this country ; as are peaches, plumbs, pears, apples, melons, and almost every fruit of the temperate zone.

No country is better stocked with wild game of every kind : Innumerable herds of deer, elk, buffaloe, and bear, are sheltered in the groves, and fed in the extensive bottoms that every where abound ; an unquestionable proof of the great fertility of the

* GENERAL PARSONS, one of the Commissioners of the treaty at Miami, in 1786, has made in his journal the following note :—“ Mr. Dawson has lived two summers at this place—[Little Beaver, near Pennsylvania west line]—He says, his corn is from 80 to 100 bushels per acre : Last year, he planted 7 acres—plowed twice before planting, and hoed once only—and had 600 bushels.”

the soil: Turkies, geese, ducks, swans, teal, pheasants, partridges, &c. are, from observation, believed to be in greater plenty here, than the tame poultry are in any part of the old settlements in America.

THE rivers are well stored with fish of various kinds, and many of them of an excellent quality. They are generally large, though of different sizes: The cat-fish, which is the largest, and of a delicious flavour, weighs from 30 to 80 pounds.

PROVISIONS will, for many years, find a ready market on any of these rivers; as settlers are constantly coming in from all parts of the world, and must be supplied by purchase, for one year at least, with many articles.

Second. FROM its situation and productions, no country is so well calculated for the establishment of manufactures of various kinds. Provisions will be forever plenty and cheap. The raw materials for fabricating most of the articles of clothing and dress, are and will be the luxuriant production of this country. Though silk, cotton and flax are valuable in themselves, yet, by being wrought into the various articles of use and ornament, the expence of transportation is proportionably lessened. The United States, and, perhaps, other countries, will be supplied from these interior parts of America.

SHIPBUILDING will be a capital branch of business on the Ohio and its confluent streams. The Ohio, when at the lowest, admits of four fathom of water, from the mouth of the Muskingum to its confluence with the Mississippi, except at the rapids, which, at such times, interrupt the navigation.

navigation for about one mile. The descent, in that distance, is only 15 feet; and the channel, which is 250 yards wide, has, at no time, less than 5 feet of water. In freshes, the water rises 30 feet; and boats are not only rowed against the stream, but ascend the rapids by means of their sails only. It is the opinion of the Geographer, and others, who have viewed the spot, that, by cutting a canal a little more than half a mile on the south side of the river, which is low meadow ground, the rapids may be avoided, and the navigation made free at all seasons of the year. Hemp, timber and iron will be plenty and good; and the high freshes, from February to April, and frequently in October and November, will bear a vessel of any burden over the rapids, in their present state, and out to sea.

THE following observations, by an English engineer, who had explored the western country, were addressed to the Earl of Hillsborough, in the year 1770, when Secretary of State for the North American department—at a time when we were British colonies, and our country considered only as the handmaid to Great Britain, in furnishing raw materials for their manufactures.

“ No part of North America will require less encouragement for the production of naval stores and raw materials for manufactories in Europe; and for supplying the West-India islands with lumber, provisions, &c. than the country of the Ohio—and for the following reasons :

“ 1. THE lands are excellent—the climate, temperate; the native grapes, silk-worms, and mulberry trees, abound every where; hemp, hops and rye grow spontaneously in the vallies & low lands; lead & iron ore are plenty in the hills; salt springs are innumerable;

able; and no soil is better adapted to the culture of tobacco, flax and cotton, than that of the Ohio.

" 2. THE country is well watered by several navigable rivers, communicating with each other; by which, and a short land carriage, the produce of the lands of the Ohio can, even now, be sent cheaper to the seaport town of Alexandria, on the river Potowmac, where General Braddock's transports landed his troops, than any kind of merchandise is sent from Northampton to London.

" 3. THE river Ohio is, at *all seasons* of the year, navigable with large boats; and, from the month of February to April, large ships may be built on the Ohio, and sent to sea, laden with hemp, iron, flax, silk, tobacco, cotton, potash, &c.

" 4. FLOUR, corn, beef, ship-plank, and other useful articles, can be sent down the stream of Ohio to West Florida, and from thence to the West India islands, much cheaper, and in better order, than from New York or Philadelphia to those islands.

" 5. HEMP, tobacco, iron, and such bulky articles, may be sent down the stream of Ohio to the sea, at least 50 per cent. cheaper than these articles were ever carried by a land carriage of only 60 miles in Pennsylvania, where waggonage is cheaper than in any other part of North-America.

" 6. THE expence of transporting European manufactures from the sea to the Ohio will not be so much as is now paid, and ever must be paid, to a great part of the counties of Pennsylvania, Virginia and Maryland. Whenever the farmers or merchants of Ohio shall properly understand the business of transportation, they will build schooners, sloops, &c. on the Ohio, suitable for the West India or European markets; or, by having black walnut, cherry tree

tree, oak, &c. properly sawed for foreign markets, and formed into rafts, in the manner that is now done by the settlers near the upper parts of the Delaware, in Pennsylvania, and thereon stow their hemp, iron, tobacco, &c. and proceed with them to New Orleans.

" IT may not, perhaps, be amiss to observe, that large quantities of flour are made in the western counties of Pennsylvania, and sent, by an expensive land carriage, to the city of Philadelphia ; and from thence shipped to South Carolina, and East and West Florida—there being little or no wheat raised in these provinces. The river Ohio seems kindly designed, by nature, as the channel, through which the two Floridas may be supplied with flour, not only for their own consumption, but also for carrying on an extensive commerce with Jamaica, and the Spanish settlements in the Bay of Mexico. Millstones, in abundance, are to be obtained in the hills near the Ohio ; and the country is every where well watered with large and constant springs and streams for grist and other mills. The passage from Philadelphia to Pensacola is seldom made in less than a month ; and 60 shillings sterling per ton freight (consisting of 16 barrels) is usually paid for flour, &c. thither. Boats, carrying 500 or 1000 barrels of flour, may go in about the same time from Pittsburgh, as from Philadelphia, to Pensacola, and for half the above freight. The Ohio merchants could deliver flour, &c. there, in much better order than from Philadelphia, and without incurring the damage and delay of the sea, and charges of insurance, &c. as from thence to Pensacola. This is not mere speculation ; for it is a fact, that about the year 1746 there was a scarcity of provisions at New Orleans ; and the French settlements at the Illinois, small as they then were, sent

sent thither, in one winter, upwards of eight hundred thousand weight of flour."

IF, instead of furnishing other nations with raw materials, companies of manufacturers from Europe could be introduced and established in this inviting situation, under the superintendence of men of property, it would occasion an immense addition of men and wealth to these new settlements, and serve as a beneficial example of economy to many parts of the United States.

Third. IN the late ordinance of Congress, for disposing of the western lands as far down as the river Sioto, the provision that is made for schools and the endowment of an university, looks with a most favourable aspect upon the settlement, and furnishes the presentiment, that, by a proper attention to the subject of education, under these advantages, the field of science may be greatly enlarged, and the acquisition of useful knowledge placed upon a more respectable footing here, than in any other part of the world. Besides the opportunity of opening a new and unexplored region for the range of natural history, botany and the medical science, there will be one advantage which no other part of the earth can boast, and which probably will never again occur—that, in order to begin *right*, there will be no *wrong* habits to combat, and no inveterate systems to overturn—there is no rubbish to remove, before you can lay the foundation. The first settlement will unbosom many men of the most liberal minds—well versed in the world, in business and every useful science. Could the necessary apparatus be procured, and funds immediately established, for founding a university on a liberal plan, that professors might be active in their various researches and employments—even now, in the infancy

infancy of the settlement, a proper use might be made of an advantage which will never be repeated.

MANY political benefits would immediately result to the United States from such an early institution in that part of the country. The people in the Kentucky and Illinois countries are rapidly increasing. Their distance from the old States will prevent their sending their children thither for instruction; from the want of which they are in danger of losing all their habits of government, and allegiance to the United States: But, on seeing examples of government, science, and regular industry, follow them into the neighbourhood of their own country, they would favour their children with these advantages, and revive the ideas of order, citizenship, and the useful sciences. This attention, from these neighbouring people, would increase the wealth and population of the new proposed settlement.

Fourth. IN the ordinance of Congress, for the government of the territory northwest of the Ohio, it is provided, that, after the said territory acquires a certain degree of population, it shall be divided into States. The eastern State, that is thus provided to be made, is bounded on the Great Miami on the west, and by the Pennsylvania line on the east. The centre of this State will fall between the Sioto and the Hockhocking. At the mouth of one of these rivers, will probably be the seat of government for this State: And, if we may indulge the sublime contemplation of beholding the whole territory of the United States settled by an enlightened people, and continued under one extended government—on the river Ohio, and not far from this spot, will be the seat of empire for the whole dominion. This is central to the whole; it will best accommodate every part; it is

the most pleasant, and probably the most healthful.

ALTHO' it is an object of importance, that Congress should soon fix on a seat of government—yet, in the present state of the country, it is presumed, it will not be thought best that such seat be considered as immovably fixed. To take the range of the Alleghany mountains from north to south, it is probable 20 years will not elapse, before there will be more people on the western than on the eastern waters of the United States. The settlers ought even now to have it in view, that government will forever accommodate them as much as their brethren on the east: This may be necessary, to prevent their forming schemes of independence, seeking other connexions, and providing for their separate convenience. As it is the most exalted and benevolent object of legislation that ever was aimed at, to unite such an amazingly extensive people, and make them happy, under one jurisdiction, every act of Congress under the new constitution, by looking forward to this object, will, we trust, inculcate and familiarize the idea. They will, no doubt, at an early period, make a reservation or purchase of a suitable tract of land for a federal town, that will be central to the whole; and give some public intimation of such intention to transfer the seat of government, on the occurrence of certain events—such as, comparative population, &c. This would render such transfer easily practicable, by preventing the occasion of uneasiness in the old States; while it would not appear to be the result of danger, or the prospect of revolt, in the new.

E X T R A C T S

From the Letters of M. ST. JOHN DE CREVECOEUR, Consul of France for the Middle States in America—lately published in Europe.

THE Ohio is the grand *Artery* of that part of America beyond the mountains; it is the centre where all the waters meet, which on one side run from the Alleghany mountains, and on the other come from the high land in the vicinity of the lakes Erie and Michigan.

"IT has been calculated, that the region watered by those rivers, &c. comprised between Pittsburgh and the Mississippi, contains at least 260,000 square miles, equal to 166,920,000 acres. It is, without a doubt, the most fertile country--the most diversified and best watered soil, and that which offers to agriculture and commerce the most abundant and easy resources, of all those that the Europeans have heretofore discovered and peopled.

"IT was on the 10th of April, at eight o'clock in the morning, that we quitted the key of Pittsburgh, and gave ourselves up to the current of the Ohio."

"THIS sweet and tranquil navigation appeared to me like an agreeable dream: Every moment presented to me new perspectives, which were incessantly diversified by the appearance of the islands, points, and the windings of the river, without intermission--changed by this singular mixture of shores more or less woody; whence the eye escaped, from time to time, to observe the great natural meadows which presented themselves, incessantly, embellished by promontories of different heights, which for a moment seemed to hide, and then gradually unfolded to the eyes of the navigator, the bays and inlets, more or less extensive, formed by the creeks and rivulets which fall into the Ohio. What majesty in the mouths of the great rivers which we passed! Their waters seemed to be as vast and as profound as those of the river upon which we floated! I never before felt myself so much disposed for meditation: My imagination involuntarily leaped into futurity; the absence of which was not afflicting, because it appeared to me nigh—I saw those beautiful shores ornamented with decent houses, covered with harvests and well cultivated fields; on the hills exposed to the north, I saw orchards regularly laid out in squares; on the others, vineyard plats, plantations of mulberry trees, locust, &c. I saw there, also, in the inferior lands, the cotton tree, and the sugar maple, the sap of which had become an object of commerce. I agree, however, that all those banks did not appear to me equally proper for culture; but, as they will probably remain covered by their native forests, it must add to the beauty, to the variety, of this future spectacle.—What an immense chain of plantations! What a long succession of activity, industry, culture, and commerce, is here offered to the Americans!—I consider, then, the settling of the lands, which are watered by this river, as one of the finest conquests that could ever be presented to man; it will be so much the more glorious, as it will be legally acquired of the ancient proprietors, and will not exact a single drop of blood—it is destined to become the source of force, riches, and the future glory of the United States.

"TOWARDS noon, on the third day, we anchored at the mouth of the Muskingum, in two fathoms and an half of water. In order to give you a weak

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a weak idea of what I call the Anatomy of the Ohio, I will speak to you of this river, and let you have a glimpse of what will one day be the utility of all its branches. It falls into the Ohio 172 miles from Pittsburgh, and is 120 fathoms wide; it is deep, and navigable for large vessels to 147 miles in the inner part of the lands; its current is moderate, and never overflows the banks, which are elevated, without being steep; one of its branches approaches all at once the greatest of the sources of the Sioto, called the Seccaium, and the river Sandusky; this last falls, as you know, into the great bay of the same name, at the bottom of the lake Erie. It is towards one of the principal branches of the Muskingum, that the great savage village of Tuscarawa is built; whence a carriage of two miles leads to the river Cayahoga, deep and rather rapid, the mouth of which, in lake Erie, forms an excellent harbour for ships of 200 tons. This place seems to be designed for a spot for a town; and many persons of my acquaintance have already thought of it. All the travellers and hunters have spoken to me with admiration of the fertility of the plains and hills watered by the Muskingum; also, of the excellent fountains, salt pits, coal mines (particularly that of Lamenchicola), of free-stones, &c. that they find throughout.

"IT was on the fourth morning, at day-break, we weighed anchor; and, in the space of three days of sweet and tranquil navigation, anchored before the Sioto, 218 miles from the Muskingum, and 390 from Pittsburgh, in order to receive on board General Richard Butler, who came from finishing some negotiations with the Shawanees: It is to him I am indebted for the following particulars of that fine river, upon the banks of which he had resided during five years of the war.

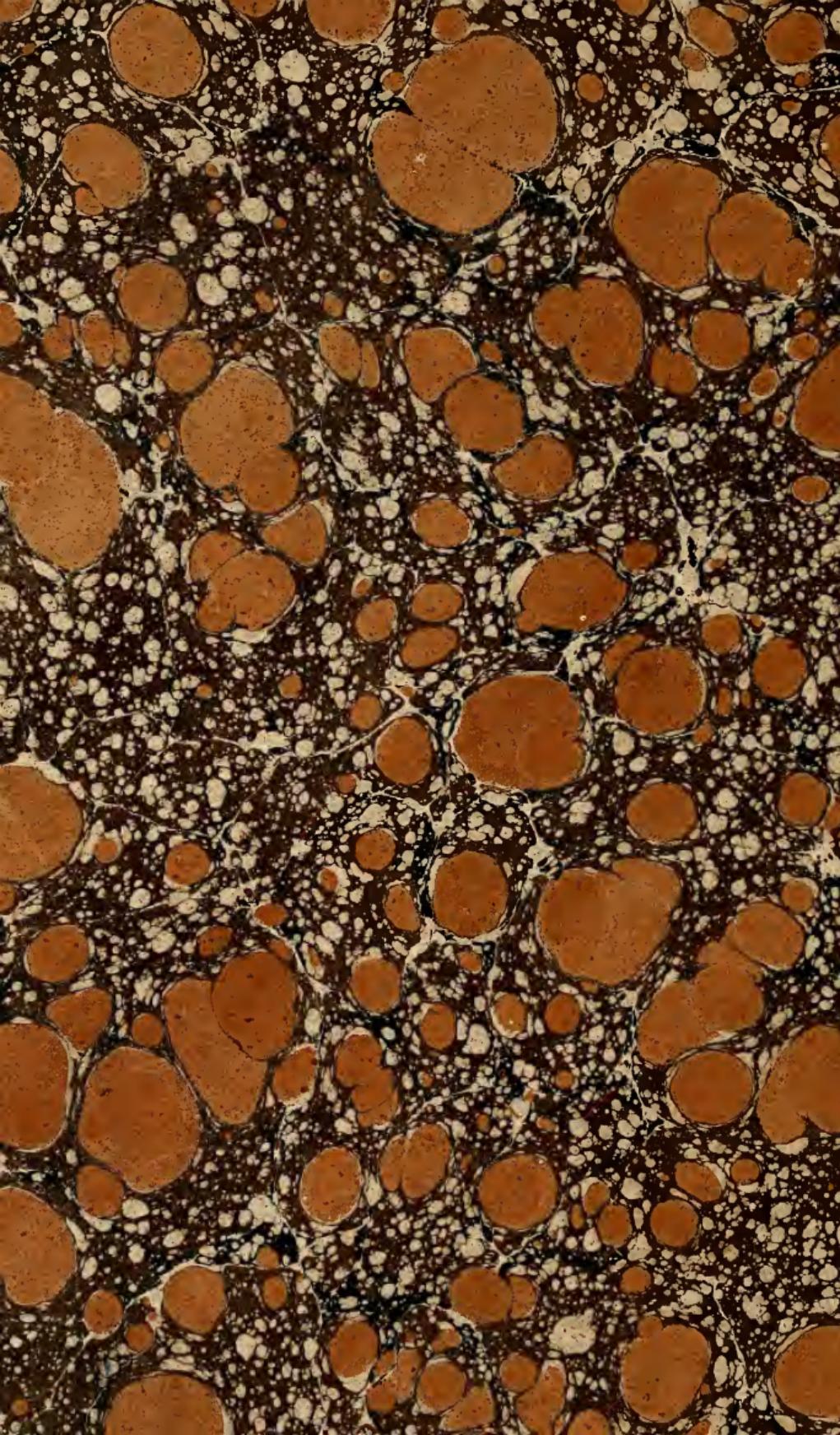
"THE Sioto is almost as large as the Ohio; its current is navigable, for vessels of a middle size, to the village of Seccaium, 111 miles from its mouth. At this village commences the grand portage of Sandusky, which is but four miles----a communication much frequented by whites and savages, and consequently of the greatest importance. This river waters a champaign country, very luxuriant and extensive.

"THOSE vast lands, so well known under the name of the plains of Sioto, begin some miles above the river Kuskinkas, and continue almost to Seccaium: They are watered by the pretty rivulets of Alaman, Deer, Kispoko, &c. and by a great number of more considerable streams: It is towards their sources, that you have a view of the fine villages of the Shawanees nation. Many of them are from 25 to 30 miles in circumference; and, as if nature had been willing to render them still more useful to man, she has covered them with gentle risings, upon which she has planted the finest trees. These plains are never overflowed, and their fertility is most admirable. If a poor man, who has nothing but his arms to support him, should ask of me, where shall I go to establish myself in order to live more at my ease, without the aid of oxen or horses? I would say to him, go upon the banks of some rivulet on the plains of Sioto; there you will obtain permission of the savages of the neighbouring villages to scratch the surface of the earth, and deposit your rye, your corn, your potatoes, your cabbages, your tobacco, &c. leave the rest to nature; and, during her operations, amuse yourself with fishing and hunting."

"EVERY spring a prodigious number of storks come to inhabit these plains; they are at least six feet high; while feeding, they have their centinels to watch, and announce the approach of danger; some time before their departure they assemble in large flocks, and upon a certain day, all together, raise themselves slowly, and, by a kind of circular ascent, describe large spiral paths in their flight.

"FINALLY, on the 10th day after our departure from Pittsburgh, we anchored before Louisville, having made 705 miles of navigation, in 212 hours and thirty minutes of time."







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